

House Bill 746

By: Representatives Lunsford of the 110<sup>th</sup>, Rogers of the 26<sup>th</sup>, Harbin of the 118<sup>th</sup>, and Smith of the 129<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

To amend Article 5 of Chapter 4 of Title 46 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to natural gas competition and deregulation, so as to permit a certain portion of excess amounts in the universal service fund to be used for purposes related to gas delivery; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

Article 5 of Chapter 4 of Title 46 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to natural gas competition and deregulation, is amended by revising subsection (d) of Code Section 46-4-161, relating to the universal service fund, as follows:

"(d) Any amounts remaining in such fund at the end of a fiscal year in excess of \$3 million shall be available for refund to retail customers in such manner as the commission shall deem equitable or for expenditure by the commission for equipment, transportation, personnel, inspections and monitoring, and emergency events related to the delivery of natural gas and for other purposes. The balance at fiscal year end, whether positive or negative, after such refund or expenditure, if any, shall become the initial balance of the fund for the ensuing fiscal year."

**SECTION 2.**

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.